

**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:**

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

~~Abstract~~ **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A network switch includes a look-up engine for obtaining associated data in response to a header portion of a packet and an interlinked network processor such as a RISC for performing a processing function on the header portion or the associated data. Both look-up engine and the network processor may modify a destination port bitmask. The network processor may implement additional packet header processing required for replication or server load balancing.